241 plants, chillies, *faquz* (a kind of gourd, *Cucumis prophetarum* L.), and lubia. The fruits include limes, bananas, dates, pawpaws and a few grapes and pomegranates.

Speaking of the Meifa district, Heald states that " near the river the main cultivation was the date crops. The sesame did not receive any special cultivation than that given for the millets; the land was ploughed or broken up by the hoe and, after levelling down with a board, the seed was sown in holes at a distance of 18 inches apart; the crop being sown generally in September. The crop was manured with dung or fish, if available, and good results were obtained from liberal manuring; four or five waterings were generally given. The crop was ready for harvest in 3½ months, when the plants were cut down close to the ground and laid out in rows to dry; the plants were then shaken for the seed to fall out on a mat." Speaking of crops generally, Heald says, " All the crops, being from seed bred in and in, had become very poor as one might expect, and unless they import fresh seed from abroad, nothing can prevent the crops from becoming even poorer than they are at present."

Methods of Agriculture.

● 134 *Soil.*—Mr. Heald's remarks on the lahd in Asfal al 'Ain apply pretty generally to much of the land in the Hadhramaut. He says, " The soil was of an alluvial nature, and in general very light loam, devoid of humus and requiring heavy manure to produce good yields. The soil in most of the villages in the Meifa valley was alluvial; very thin and with a stony subsoil." In parts of the Wadi Maseila owing to the heavy vegetation there is more humus.

805 241 *Seasons.*—The seasons are arranged by the stars and called Summer (*Seif*), Autumn (*Kharif*), Winter (*Sheita*) and Spring (*Rabia*). From an agricultural point of view it is difficult to distinguish. Crops are often to be seen in all stages, sowing, grown and harvested. According to Heald, the summer crops are Italian and bullrush millet and tobacco, which is sown towards the end of the summer for transplanting in early winter. The winter crops are great millet, maize, lucerne, wheat, barley and all the vegetables.

241 492 412 *Implements.*—The implements are few and primitive. A small plough is used for breaking up the surface of the soil. It consists of a sharpened piece of wood with an upright for the farmer to hold and press the " share " into the soil. It is pulled by oxen or a camel. The hoe used has a pear-shaped head; sometimes the soil is levelled after ploughing by dragging a small board over the surface. Small curved knives are used in the tobacco nurseries for scratching up the soil. Heald saw a " weeder " which was very much like a chisel.

241 *Manures.*—Tobacco beds are occasionally treated with sheep dung, but the principal manure in the lower Hadhramaut is fish manure. As many as three small fish are put on the soil round each plant.

16: Gardner A-4 (1937-38) 1939 MM2 Hadhramaut MM2

133 the seaward end of the 16 m. terrace already mentioned. It slopes from about RL 15 beneath the higher plain to RL 12. Here it ends in a scarp about 2 m. high, and below it a consolidated yellow sand forms the wadi floor. The channel here turns and breaks through a ridge to the sea. This ridge is composed of cellular sandstone similar in appearance to that seen near Mukalla and, in some places, of gravels. From its level it would seem to be the last remnant of the big erosional plain on the east side of the wadi.

We have then in this area three well-defined levels and a minor one. These in order of age are: high-level gravel, RL 52 m., possibly Tertiary or early Pleistocene; remnant of erosional level, about RL 32 m., with palaeolithic chert implements on surface; extensive and important erosional plain, about RL 28 m., no sign of marine deposits passing downstream; terrace at 7 m.–5 m. above wadi floor at RL 16 m.; and a terrace at 3 m. above wadi floor.

[487] The road to Shihr continues along the coastal plain, crossing marine beds in many places, and runs over an extensive development of gravel just before reaching the town.

The coastal plain is here some 10–12 km. broad, and is backed by the great cliffs and outliers of the South Arabian plateau, called the *jol*. It is some [132 427] 1000 m. high, but slopes gradually northwards up to 3000 m., becoming ever more barren as it recedes from the influence of the monsoon rains. The newly made road to Tarim follows a switch-back course over it, now crossing stony plateaux, then descending into broad flat-bottomed wadis often sand-covered and with lines of trees and scrub marking the watercourses. In 134 these wadis a loess-like deposit that was later to become such a familiar and prehistorically important feature in the Wadi Hadhramaut and its tributaries, was first seen. Here, as there, it seems to have filled the valleys through which later erosion has carved a way. Near the village of Reida, in the Ma'ara country about 60 km. from the southern edge of the plateau, rounded consolidated gravel and conglomerate were seen near a water-hole.

183 The watershed between the north and south-running valleys lies much nearer the southern than the northern edge of the plateau; this is possibly due to subsidence of the coastal area, and as a consequence many of the wadis draining into the Wadi Hadhramaut are very long. Nearing the edge of this great wadi the character of the drainage changes; instead of broad flat-bottomed valleys, there are narrow ravines deeply entrenched in the limestone (Plate 4). On the stony ground between them numerous deeply patinated palaeoliths, both cores and flakes, were found, similar in type to others whose occurrence *in situ* in gravel terraces of the valley floor system will be described later. Their position here, on tongues of plateau furrowed by deep ravines, recalled the occurrence of typologically similar implements on similar tongues of plateau licking the cliff edge of the Nile valley.

We first saw the Wadi Hadhramaut from the top of the pass leading sharply down to Tarim. It is a great flat-floored trench some 3 km. broad and 300 m. deep, bounded by high cliffs of characteristic outline, which repeats itself with monotonous regularity both along the main wadi and in the tributary valleys. This outline is the expression of the geological features, which are here very simple (Plates 2, 3). The cliffs consist of a series of almost horizontal beds; the upper 200 m. are of limestone, Eocene over Cretaceous.

172
133
134
812

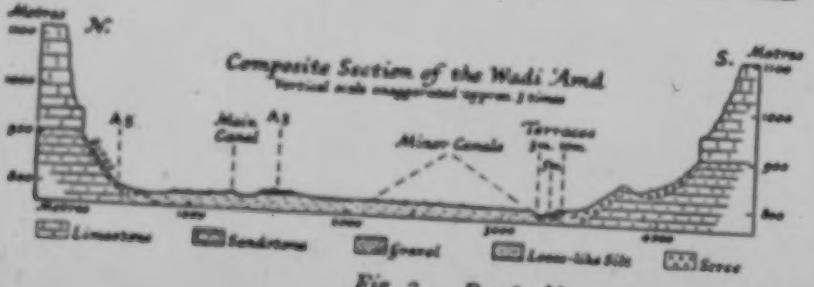


Fig. 2 P·24

16: Gardner A-4 (1937-38) 1939 MM2 Hadhramaut MM2

two great wadis the silty deposit, which we propose to name "aeolian silt," has been eroded into hillocks reminiscent of those on the floor of Kharga Oasis, except that they are larger and not so stream-lined by wind. The subordinance of wind erosion in the Hadhramaut is in striking contrast to conditions in Kharga, and emphasizes the difference between a true desert-belt and one under the influence, however incompletely, of the monsoons.

The work around Hureidha consisted of the examination of the geologically recent deposits, and the detailed[1] mapping of a small area around the ruin field (Fig. 2). The section, Fig. 2, shows that the structure of the valley is the same as that in the Wadi Hadhramaut.

The valley filling is the dominant deposit. It is on the whole a fine-grained material, largely arenaceous but with a certain amount of clay. Structurally it shows the prominent vertical jointing so characteristic of loess and aeolian deposits in general. Yet this is not the only guide to its origin, for clay bands and occasional scattered lines of pebbles point also to water action. It seems therefore convenient to use the term "aeolian silt" for this deposit to represent its composite character, part wind, part water-laid. Water action would seem to have played a greater rôle here than in Kharga, where wind bedding, absent in the Hadhramaut, is common. A good section was examined in the banks of the flood channel north of Hureidha (Plate 6). Two darker banks can be seen running nearly horizontally 1 and 2 m. from the top of the section. These are formed of more argillaceous material, and clay balls were common in the sandy layers. Here and there a pocket of land shells lying at all angles was found. These were mostly *Zootecus insularis* Ehrn, but a few *Obeliscella bentiae* M. and P. and *Pupoides* sp. also occurred. The full depth of the filling could nowhere be ascertained. The wells in the floor of the Wadi Hadhramaut are shallow, and in the Wadi 'Amd, though very deep,[1] they are in the rising sides of the valley. In discussing the age of the aeolian silt we can therefore speak only of the upper layers.

In the Wadi 'Amd good dating evidence was obtained in the north bank of the flood channel opposite the Wadi Luqrun, a tributary wadi entering from the south near the village of Sharj el Hamus (see Fig. 2). Here a magnificent section is exposed in a cliff 10–8 m. high (Plate 7). It is capped by four or more metres of aeolian silt which stretches away northwards and forms the whole floor of Wadi 'Amd. This is underlaid by two gravel bands separated by more aeolian silt, which in turn underlies the lowest gravel and forms the floor of the flood channel. The gravel bands are about 1·5 m. thick, and consist of medium to small limestone pebbles with occasional ones of chert or tufa. Both bands contain chert implements but they are particularly abundant in the lower. In the sides of the erosion channels the gravels are seen to tail out northwards and eventually disappear. They obviously represent the outwash fans of the Wadi Luqrun, which seems to have been capable of carrying gravels while the main wadi was bringing down silt only. The tools in these gravels are of Levalloisian flake type, and date the uppermost layers of silt in the Wadi 'Amd. Confirmation was obtained by finding a good unworn tortoise core embedded in the silt at another spot.

[1] Van der Meulen and von Wissmann state (*op. cit.*, p. 98) that some are about 300 feet deep.

16: Gardner A-4 (1937-38) 1939 MM2 Hadhramaut MM2

134 A more active phase succeeded the silt filling of the valley. On its southern edge floods again brought down gravels, but this time down the main wadi itself. These occur in three terraces at 10 to 8, 5, and 3 m. respectively above the thalweg (Plate 8). All contain implements of the same type as those found in the section already described, but they are most numerous in the 10-m. terrace. The gravel is composed of similar elements in all, the only distinction being that in the 5 and 3-m. terraces true current-bedded sands occur which appear to be absent in the 10-m. terrace. The latter is interbedded in places with aeolian silt, probably derived from pre-existing deposits. All the terraces are laid against the silt and occasionally the gravel overlaps it on the north bank. It never however spreads far north, and in this stretch of the wadi the flood channel seems always to have kept more or less closely to the southern cliffs.

The 10-m. terrace is best developed between Dar es Sa'ad and Sharj el Hamus on the southern bank of the channel (see map, Fig. 2). It is frequently obscured by ancient and modern irrigation works and agricultural operations. At the entrance of the Wadi Luqrun a big stone barrage has been built across the mouth of the channel to prevent backward erosion. This wall abuts against the 10-m. terrace, which stands out darker coloured in contrast with the lighter-coloured gravel of the 5-m. terrace below it. It has occasional pockets and layers of aeolian silt in it, but downstream these increase in importance till a little east of Dar es Sa'ad only 1 m. of gravel rests on solid silt. Beyond this point the 10-m. gravel is not seen, the south bank being of aeolian silt until the Hureidha lateral valley is reached, when the 5-m. and 3-m. terraces become prominent.

At this point the 5-m. terrace is laid against the silt on the south side, while on the north bank a scatter of gravel at 5 m. probably represents the remnant of this terrace. Near Dar es Sa'ad it seems to be cut out of the 10-m. gravel, and upstream from here spreads out to form a broad bay. In these sections however it is once more resting on aeolian silt. A typical exposure showed:

top 1·5 m. gravel, medium-sized pebbles, occasional patches of aeolian silt
1·5 m. gravel of finer texture with 1 cm. mud layer overlying current-bedded sands
0·5 m. coarse gravel
about 1·5 m. sand and pebbles overlying irregularly the eroded floor of aeolian silt, here forming the wadi bed.

No implements were found in this section, though a few were collected *in situ* near Dar es Sa'ad and Hureidha.

The 3-m. terrace forms low flats cut through by the modern flood channel. It may rest against the aeolian silt on the 5-m. terrace, which it resembles in all respects but level. A few rolled implements were found in it in the Hureidha section. East of Dar es Sa'ad it is well developed, and shows 1 m. of rather coarse gravel resting on aeolian silt. At this point it has been utilized for the start of the modern embankment that leads the flood waters down a recently cut canal to 'Andal.

We have so far traced a series of events which might be interpreted climatically as a dry phase (the deposition of the silt), followed by one of greater

16: Gardner A-4 (1937-38) 1939 MM2 Hadhramaut MM2

133

4. Jol above Tarim: palaeolithic area at the head of lateral wadi

134
133

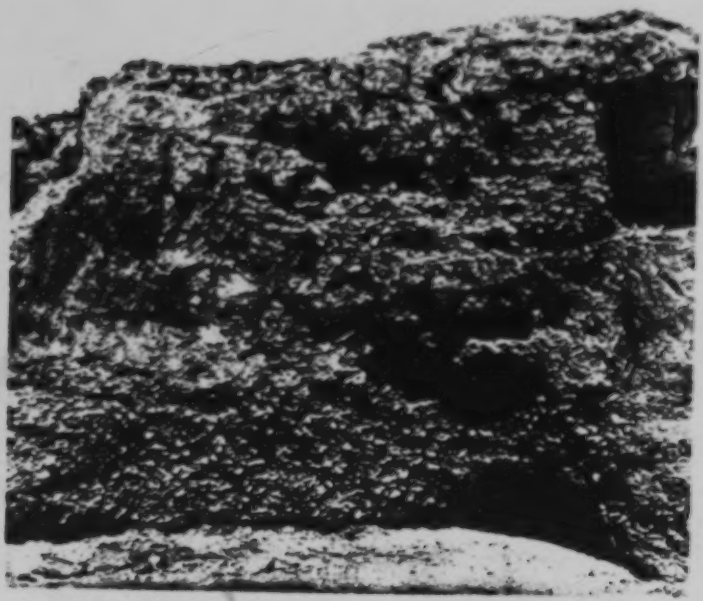
5. Wadi 'Adim: exposure of aeolian silt over gravel

Facing P. 26 (A)

16. Gardner A-4 (1937-38) 1939 MM2 Hadhramaut MM2

134

6. Aeolian silt cliff and present flood bed in Wadi 'Amd



7. Interbedded aeolian silt and gravels in Wadi 'Amd

facing p. 26 (B)

16: Gardner A-4 (1937-38) 1939 MM2 Hadhramaut MM2

rainfall, represented by the gravel terraces. But this sequence might also be due to other causes such, for instance, as the blocking of the Wadi Hadhramaut by the lava-flows, and therefore it was necessary to look for independent evidence. Von Wissmann observed that the plains of the Yemen are floored with a great layer of fine sandy soil, aeolian in origin and very similar to loess.[1] This in a neighbouring country lends support to the climatic origin of the changes. Reinforcement comes also from the occurrence of aeolian silt, already mentioned, in the wadis of the *jol* far removed from the influence of the Wadi Hadhramaut. Further support on other lines was also obtained in the Wadi 'Amd itself, during the examination of small lateral wadis.

Some of these minor lateral wadis and ravines have springs trickling from the base of the big Cretaceous cliff, and it seemed possible that if a period of greater rainfall had, as surmised, occurred in the past, evidence would be registered in the formerly more abundant flow of these springs. In Kharga Oasis few springs still exist on the scarp, but we found there conclusive proof of more abundant water in the Pleistocene. This was demonstrated by the great deposits of travertine or tufa which in places completely mask the underlying rocks. In the Hadhramaut ancient tufa was found near the existing springs, and as terraces in the ravines above them, but developed on a far smaller scale than in Kharga (Plate 9). This may be due partly to the difference in configuration, and partly to the monsoon erosion in the Hadhramaut. Its occurrence does however point to a time of greater rainfall and spring activity. But, though on a smaller scale, the Arabian tufa deposits are strikingly like those of Kharga in their general aspect. In both places they have weathered to a rusty brown-black with a light yellow fracture, and in both places massive and cellular types occur, though nothing resembling the "plateau" tufa of Kharga was found. They all belonged to the "wadi" type.[2]

The deposit in both places contains fossil leaves, amongst which fig leaves are predominant, and shells, though these are unexpectedly much more abundant in Kharga than in the Hadhramaut. Moreover in Arabia the tufas were not, in the areas examined, associated with interbedded silts and gravels, as in Kharga, nor were palaeoliths, as there, *in situ* in them. The dating of the Kharga tufas in archaeological terms is therefore much more definite and susceptible of subdivisions than in Hadhramaut; but the palaeolithic age also of the latter is placed beyond doubt by the occurrence of tufa pebbles in the 10-m. gravel terrace, and in the gravels interbedded with the aeolian silt.

A typical spring and tufa terrace outcrop in Arabia may now be described for the first time.

The modern springs issue in lateral ravines at or near the base of the massive lowest Cretaceous limestone, which is undercut sometimes by as much as 20 or 30 m. A good example was found in a small valley on the west side of the Wadi Luqrun, where two trickles of water come from cracks in the limestone about 1·5 m. above its base. A soft spongy mass of recently formed

[1] C. Rathjens and H. von Wissmann, "Vorislamische Altertümer" (*Südarabien-Reise*, Band 2, 1932, p. 14).

[2] For discussion of these tufas see Caton-Thompson and Gardner, "The prehistoric geography of Kharga Oasis" (*Geogr. J.* 80 (1932) 369–409), and Gardner, "Some problems of the Pleistocene hydrography of Kharga Oasis" (*Geol. Mag.*, vol. lxix, September 1932).

24:Meulen and Wissmann T-3 (1931)1932 MM2 Hadhramaut MM2

721 and the police better in the Dutch colonial territories. This
648 same question was repeated again in the evening, in the reception-room of our host at Hēnin. However pleasing I may have found these signs of appreciation for western colonial government on the part of an eastern Muḥammadan people, I continued to answer with evasions and urged them to take the matter into their own hands and to achieve unity, forced on by necessity.

2. THE OLD DYING TOWN OF HĒNIN.

It cost us much pains to decline the pressing invitations to stay longer and to continue the journey to Hēnin in the afternoon.

The hot wind is still filling the wādī with a thick, high-driven mist of sand and dust. The Buqrīs, with their numerous soldiers crowding round them, accompany us till we are outside the gate on the side away from the enemy. Obviously they are all sorry we are leaving so soon and that this variation in their monotonous life comes to so early an end. Before our departure we promise, gladly and faithfully, should we return by this route, to spend the night in their high, beautiful castle. Before long Diyār Āl Buqrī has disappeared in the haze of sand and we travel in absolute solitude amongst the hillocks of loam. Bin ʿAwaḍ Martaʿ, steering a very twisting course, seeks those places where his car can pass between the line of hills. The lower parts are filled with fine sand that lies piled up by the wind so that we have to go by way of the slopes at the foot of the loam-hills. We pass a few tumble-down villages; of vegetation there is hardly a trace.

361 The number of settlements increases as we approach the
241 neighbourhood of Hēnin. They are situated partly at the foot
●134 of the mountain-wall which forms the northern bank of Wādī el-Kasr, and partly close by, in the bed of the wādī. Little dykes, which make rectangular divisions in the loam, are a sure proof that agriculture was once carried on here. It does not

24:Meulen and Wissmann T-3 (1931)1932 MM2 Hadhramaut MM2

look as though this is still possible in any way; the drifting sand has killed the date-palms and reduced to a minimum the cultivation of *dhura* and the like. The hamlets are partially deserted and the mud houses fallen in.

The very ancient town of Hēnin[1] has shared this fate. The place lies like a long line at the foot of the rock-wall. Castles and defence turrets higher up have fallen into ruin as have most of the houses of this once important town on the road to the Yemen.

Bin ʿAwaḍ Martaʿ has returned to his fatherland from Surabaya with the resolve to try to check its decay. The family house has been restored by him and a new storey built on to it. He has brought from Java a motor pump which has been set up on the 70 feet deep well. The pump supplies 30 gallons of water for irrigation per minute so that, if it works for eight hours a day, it just suffices to wrench a few acres of *dhura* from the sandy desert and to keep alive the 200 young date-palms which are planted between.

Bin Martaʿ himself now also realizes that this is but a service of love at a death-bed and that his motor pump cannot save Hēnin from decay and from the engulfing sea of sand. Hēnin is like a little town destroyed by storm on the rocky coast of an interminable sea of sand which has first swallowed up its palm-groves and is now submerging the place itself. We have seen nothing of the Bā ʿAṭwah, the poet beggars of Hēnin.[2] They have been driven by poverty to the prosperous parts of the valley of Ḥaḍramaut and to Java.

Hēnin is nominally under Qeʿēṭī rule; the Sultan of Shibām and el-Qaṭn protects the place and the insignificant little villages surrounding it. That evening, in the great *madjlis* of Bin Martaʿ's house, we met the poor, simple shēkhs of the

[1] Cf. el-Hamdānī, *op. cit.*, p. 85, l. 19*sqq.*, 86, l. 20 *sq.*, 88, l. 10 *sqq.*; De Goeje, *Hadhramaut*, in *Revue Coloniale Internationale*, ii.(1886), p. 110.

[2] C. Snouck Hurgronje, *Zur Dichtkunst der Bâ ʿAṭwah in Ḥadhramôt*, in *Verspreide Geschriften*, v. (Bonn, 1925), p. 393 *sqq.*

24. Meulen and Wissmann T-3 (1931)1932 MM2 Hadhramaut MM2

of pilgrims who used to come and worship here. ʿEnāt is well situated for this: nearly *all* pilgrims to the tomb of God's Prophet Hūd must pass through it. Now its greatness has fallen, and everyone in Ḥaḍramaut knows the *nuqra*[1], the cause of its gradual ruin. Since the disappearance of the dams periodic strong currents of water have worn out and deepened the *sēl*-bed. This erosion has moved slowly up-stream. By a dam nearly a mile in length Shibām has had to protect its palm plantations against this action, which lays bare the roots of the trees. ʿEnāt is situated further down-stream than any town in Ḥaḍramaut, so that it gets the full force of the torrents and the erosion occurs here first and makes itself most seriously felt. The *sēl* is very much strengthened at times by water from various side-wādīs, and in the thick layer of loess covering the valley here its bed is washed out deeper and deeper.

The roots of the palm-trees are washed bare and, consequently, the crop becomes smaller. Finally the tree falls; it goes on living and still bears fruit, but its death is near. The broad zone of palms around ʿEnāt is slowly perishing through the *nuqra*. The palms are doomed; the sun penetrates through the many open spaces, the works for distributing water are destroyed, and everything is covered by a layer of white sand. We only visited ʿEnāt on the way back, keeping now to the northern bank, which soon rises high up above the bed of the wādī. The loess wall is becoming more and more undermined by the water and it is therefore difficult for our drivers to find a safe way along it. This danger proved real on the way back; one of the two cars overturned and was badly damaged. An attempt has been made to divert the *sēl*-bed to the foot of the mountains on the north by constructing a dam. A great sum was raised for this, but the dam was repeatedly destroyed by the water so that the undertaking was, at last, abandoned. The plan to construct a dam was due to the initiative of one

[1] *Nuqra* is the gradual erosion by the water.

S.Gt. Brit. Colonial Office G-3 (1947) 1949 MM1 Aden

Hadhramaut M,MSN

231

Animal Husbandry	*Western Aden Protectorate*	*Eastern Aden Protectorate*
Camels	30,000	50,000
Cattle	45,000	10,000
Goats	500,000	420,000
Sheep	150,000	80,000

Soil Conservation

312
654

In Southern Arabia the rainfall is in general too low for an efficient natural vegetation to cover the slopes and act as a check to run-off. Only by the efficient use of all sources of water, particularly flood water, can cultivation continue. In these circumstances an effective system of soil and water conservation forms an integral part of traditional cultivation, and although there is a constant movement of the soil from the slopes to the flats, efficient run-off control results in comparatively little silt-laden water reaching the sea. Soil erosion occurs where flood waters are not controlled and in some areas overstocking has led to soil degradation.

134

The agricultural staff is at present very small but steps have been taken to improve the position.

The general view is that efforts to conserve soil should be directed to the maintenance and extension of flood-control systems. The districts of Abyan, Beihan and Ahwar and the Hadhramaut, which depend largely on a system of flood-water irrigation, have been selected as areas for improvement. In past years flood waters have gone to waste owing to local insecurity and poverty which resulted in the neglect of the deflectors and canals required for flood control. During the past few seasons active measures have been taken to remedy this state of affairs following an improvement in political conditions and by a system of advances to cultivators willing to undertake the restoration of their irrigation systems. Such flood-water control works must naturally go hand in hand with increased production measures. Special attention has been paid to Abyan where a Development Scheme is in operation.

On the Audhali plateau a system of advances to farmers who are willing to improve or sink wells or recondition terraces proved successful. Particular interest has been stimulated in areas where political difficulties have in the past caused neglect of such opportunities for the improvement of the natural resources.

134

Wind erosion is a factor of importance in the alluvial areas such as on the coastal plain where it affects areas which have been withheld from cultivation for long periods. In such situations dessication of the soil is followed by wind erosion. The remedy is to irrigate such soils and bring them back into cultivation

Study of Agricultural Techniques

(*a*) *Soils* are mainly alluvial. In the Eastern Protectorate they are almost everywhere derived from limestone. In the Western Protectorate soils in high-altitude districts are derived from the granite and elsewhere from the limestone series or from volcanic rock. Soils in irrigated areas

S.Gt. Brit., Colonial Office G-3 (1947) 1949 MM1 Aden
Hadhramaut MM21

934 are generally of good-quality alluvium. In high-altitude districts less fertile soils are found and they are generally light in texture, except in some limestone areas where they are heavy and intractable.

312 (*b*) *Water supplies* are generally good and sufficient for the needs of cultivators who tend to concentrate in the river-valley areas or in the highland areas where some rainfall can be expected. Water becomes scarce in the Eastern districts where the settled country emerges into the Empty Quarter. Domestic water supplies are obtained from springs, wells, dams, tanks and cisterns.

(*c*) *Irrigation and drainage systems* are highly developed. At high altitudes the run-off is led to terraces in order to boost the rainfall which is insufficient in itself for crop production. Flood irrigation systems are found in the river valleys and on the coastal plain. Irrigation from permanent streams and springs is highly developed. Artificial irrigation is from open wells. Animal power lifts are worked at depths of 10 to 60 feet and in the most favourable districts command up to 10 per cent. of the total arable area.

241 (*d*) *Mechanical cultivation* is confined to one small unit used by the Abyan Board in the Abyan district. Elsewhere the simple Arabian plough, combined levelling-board and scraper, harrow and a drill attachment for the plough comprise the implements used by the cultivator.

(*e*) *Application of fertilisers.* Organic fertilisers only are used. Farmyard manure is commonly used in all mid-altitude and highland districts. Farmyard manure, human excreta and town wastes are used in the Hadhramaut. Fish and guano are commonly used in the Eastern Protectorate coastal areas.

Land Tenure

423 (*a*) Customary tribal law and Shari'a law affect land tenure.

(*b*) Individual ownership is the common and most-desired form of tenancy; share tenancy is the usual form of leasehold tenure.

(*c*) His Majesty's Government owns no land in the Aden Protectorate. Some of the Arab states hold extensive tracts of land as state domain. All the land is held by indigenous inhabitants except for a very small percentage held by Yemeni settlers and a few Indians and Somalis.

Agricultural Credit

452 There are no banks in the Aden Protectorate. One small Farmers' Association giving credit assistance to its members was formed during
453 the year. The Department of Agriculture, the local Governments, and in the Wadi Hadhramaut a Relief Organisation afforded assistance to farmers with interest-free loans.

FISHERIES

654 A visit in February by the Fisheries Adviser to the Secretary of State
226 for the Colonies resulted in the arrival of a fisheries research party in